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Action

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Info

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TO: Secretary of State

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NO: 152, AUGUST 15, NOON

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SENT PRIORITY BONN 136 REPEATED INFORMATION DEPARTMENT 152
PRIORITY USAREUR 42.

1. POLITICAL ADVISERS MET LATE YESTERDAY WITH ACTING SOVIET POLITICAL ADVISER CAPTAIN SLICHKOV TO PRESENT NEW SAMPLE TRUCK-CONVOY DOCUMENTS. IN HANDLING ALLIED FORMS TO SLICHKOV ADVISERS STATED (A) FORMS WOULD BE PLACED IN USE EFFECTIVE 0001 AUGUST 18, (B) THAT THEIR INTRODUCTION IN NO WAY EITHER EXPLICITLY OR IMPLICITLY CONCEDED TO SOVIETS RIGHT INSPECT ALLIED MILITARY VEHICLES, (C) ADVISERS ASSUMED PREVIOUS ALLIED DIFFICULTIES WITH CLEARANCES ON AUTOBAHN WOULD NOW END.
2. IN REPLY SLICHKOV STATED THAT IN QUADRIPARTITE AGREEMENT OF 1945 "RIGHT TO CONTROL TRAFFIC ON AUTOBAHN WAS RESERVED TO THE SOVIETS". ADDITIONALLY GENERALS HODES-ZAKHAROV HAD ALREADY DISCUSSED QUESTION OF CONTROL BOTH ORALLY AND IN WRITING AND THAT THERE WERE NOW NO DIFFERENCES IN THIS REGARD. SLICHKOV CONTINUED STATING INSPECTION WOULD NOT BE USUAL PROCEDURE BUT RATHER IN EXCEPTIONAL CASES ONLY TO INSURE NO UNAUTHORIZED PERSONNEL WERE TRAVELLING IN ALLIED VEHICLES. SUCH CASES WERE KNOWN AND HAD BEEN "PUT INTO WRITING" BUT OTHER CASES WERE SUSPECTED "ALTHOUGH NOT KNOWN TO US"? OCCASIONAL CHECKS WOULD CONSTITUTE NO INFRINGEMENT OF ALLIED RIGHTS; BESIDES INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN GIVEN US BY OUR COMMANDERS IN-CHIEF THEREFORE THERE IS NOTHING FURTHER WE CAN DO IN THIS REGARD.
3. BRITISH POLITICAL ADVISER INTERRUPTED TO STATE SLICHKOV'S COMMENT THAT GENERALS HODES AND ZAKAROV "HAD NO DIFFERENCES WITH REGARD TO CONTROL" WAS NOT CORRECT. ON BEHALF OF WESTERN ALLIES BRITISH HAD SENT PROTESTS TO SOVIETS, THE LAST ON JULY 1 STATING DID NOT CONCEDE RIGHT OF INSPECTION NOR AGREE TO UNILATERAL INTRODUCTION NEW FORMS 1 AUGUST. AMERICAN ADVISER EMPHASIZED FULL SUPPORT BRITISH COMMENTS THIS REGARD.

3. BRITISH POLITICAL ADVISER INTERRUPTED TO STATE SLICHKOV'S COMMENT THAT GENERALS HODES AND ZAKAROV "HAD NO DIFFERENCES WITH REGARD TO CONTROL" WAS NOT CORRECT. ON BEHALF OF WESTERN ALLIES BRITISH HAD SENT PROTESTS TO SOVIETS, THE LAST ON JULY 1 STATING DID NOT CONCEDE RIGHT OF INSPECTION NOR AGREE TO UNILATERAL INTRODUCTION NEW FORMS 1 AUGUST. AMERICAN ADVISER EMPHASIZED FULL SUPPORT BRITISH COMMENTS THIS REGARD.

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-2- 152, AUGUST 15, NOON, FROM BERLIN

NOTING ADDITIONALLY THAT GENERAL HAMLETT'S SIGNATURE WOULD APPEAR ON EACH U.S. MOVEMENT ORDER CERTIFYING CARGO AND PERSONNEL WERE AS INDICATED. THEREFORE INSISTING ON EVEN OCCASIONAL INSPECTION WOULD IMPLY DISTRUST OF GENERAL HAMLETT'S CERTIFICATION.

4. SLICKOV COUNTERED THAT SPOT CHECK PROCEDURE DID NOT INFER DISTRUST OF SIGNING OFFICER BUT RATHER NOTED ABUSES COULD TAKE PLACE BY MEMBERS OF COMMANDANTS' STAFF. WITHOUT MENTIONING DATE HE CITED EXAMPLE OF BRITISH SOLDIER WHO ILLEGALLY BROUGHT TWO WEST GERMANS FROM FEDERAL REPUBLIC TO BERLIN. HE EMPHASIZED AGAIN THAT RIGHT OF CONTROL ALWAYS EXISTED AND PRESENT NEW PROCEDURES CONSTITUTED ONLY CHANGE IN FORM OF CONTROL. FINALLY HE OBSERVED QUICK INSPECTION OF FORMS SUBMITTED SHOWED THEM TO BE SATISFACTORY AND BASICALLY IN ACCORDANCE WITH SOVIET SAMPLE.

5. AMERICAN ADVISER MENTIONED GENERAL ZAKHAROV'S MESSAGE TO GENERAL HAMLETT OF 13 AUGUST COMPLAINING ABOUT U.S. SERGEANT WHO ON AUGUST 11 "REMAINED FOR REASONS UNKNOWN IN TERRITORY OF GDR FOR OVER 7 HOURS" (SEE PARAGRAPH 5 OURTEL SENT BONN 134 DEPARTMENT 150, COB 108 TO USAREUR). HE NOTED SERGEANT HAD REPORTED HIS CAR HAD BROKEN DOWN AND OUR EFFORTS TO DESPATCH AN ASSISTANCE VEHICLE WERE UNSUCCESSFUL BECAUSE SOVIETS REFUSED PERMIT CAR CLEAR NOWAWES CHECKPOINT. AMERICANS THEREFORE MUST INSIST IN FUTURE FOLLOWING INTRODUCTION NEW TYPE MOVEMENT IN ORDER DIFFICULTIES OF THIS KIND WOULD NOT RECUR AND MOREOVER AMERICAN RELIEF CARS WOULD NOT BE OBLIGATED PROCEED TO OPPOSITE CHECKPOINT FOR CLEARANCE ONCE THEY HAD RENDERED ASSISTANCE. TO THIS SLICKOV AGREED.

CHAIRMAN ADVISER CLOSED MEETING WITH STATEMENT THAT ALLIES EXPECTED SLICKOV TO INFORM HIS SUPERIORS THAT CONTROL OF ALLIED VEHICLES WOULD NOT BE PERMITTED. THIS HE SAID HE WOULD DO.

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